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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 NMCC-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00
NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 AID-28 PC-04
NIC-01 RSR-01 /120 W
002908

P 111645Z AUG 70
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1452
INFO AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
AMCONSUL RECIFE

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SUBJ: KIDNAPPINGS IN URUGUAY

1. BRASILIA'S PRESS (DIARIOS ASSOCIADOS) INFORMED READERS IN TUESDAY'S EDITION OF DEADLING - MIDNIGHT MONDAY - SUPPOSEDLY SET BY TUPAMAROS IN CASE OF BRAZILIAN CONSUL DIAS GOMIDE (PUBLIC WAS NOT INFORMED OF PREVIOUS UNCONFIRMED DEADLINE OF 1530 SUNDAY). ALTHOUGH KIDNAPPINGS AND MURDER OF MITRIONE GIVEN FULL PRESS COVERAGE, RADIO CONTINUES COMPLETE BLACKOUT ON EVENTS IN URUGUAY. THIS EVIDENTLY ATTEMPT BY GOB TO AVOID SUDDEN REACTION WHICH RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT MIGHT CAUSE.

2. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION PUBLISHED TEXT OF MESSAGE SENT TO URUGUAYAN FONMIN BY BRAZILIAN FONMIN MARIO GIBSON BARBOSA: "IN FACE OF CRUEL, COLD, AND PREMEDITATED CRIME, COMMITTED BY TERRORISTS, OF MURDER OF MR. DAN MITRIONE, DANGER IS INCREASED THAT CONSUL ALOYSIO MARES DIAS GOMIDE WILL ALSO BE MURDERED. BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT CONTINUES HOWEVER TO HAVE HOPES THAT URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT WILL SPARE NO EFFORTS TO SAVE LIFE OF ITS DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE. I REITERATE TO YOUR EXCELLENCY APPEAL ALREADY MADE SO MANY TIMES--AND I MAKE IT NOW ALSO IN NAME OF ENTIRE BRAZILIAN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE--NOT ONLY BASED UPON PRINCIPLES OF

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HUMANITY BUHMALSO AS A CONSEQUENCE OF OBLIGATION THAT STATES HAVE TO PROTECT LIVES OF DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES ACCREDITED IN ITS TERRITORY."

3. MAJORITY LEADER IN SENATE, FILINTO MULLER, IN MENTIONING THAT BRAZIL RELEASED CERTAIN NUMBER PRISONERS TO SAVE LIFE OF DIPLOMATS, EMPHASIZED THAT POLITICAL SITUATION IN URUGUAY DIFFERENT. IN BRAZIL, PRESIDENT HAS POWERS TO RELEASE PRISONERS, BUT IN URUGUAY PRESIDENT HAS HANDS TIED BY CONSTITUTIONAL RESTRICTIONS.

4. COMMENT: STATEMENT BY MULLER EXHIBITING UNDERSTANDING OF URUGUAYAN CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTING IN VIEW OF HIS ROLE AS GOVERNMENT PARTY SPOKESMAN. REMARKS OF CONGRESSMEN HERETOFORE HAVE CONDEMNED PACHECO'S ALLEGED INTRANSIGENCE WITHOUT RECOGNITION CONSTITUTIONAL DIFFERENCES.
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